

I appreciate the leadership of Representatives MIKIE SHERRILL and NANCY MACE for bringing this measure forward in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in 1894, the United States founded an organization that has since grown into the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee. The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee is tasked with organizing the participation of U.S. athletes in international amateur athletic events.

In 1950, Congress granted the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee a Federal charter under title 36 of the U.S. Code. As a congressionally chartered organization, it takes an act of Congress to make changes to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee's charter.

This bill would amend the bylaws for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee and national governing bodies to require those entities to provide equal pay for male and female athletes who represent the U.S. in international amateur athletic events. This would include equal compensation, wages, benefits, medical care, travel arrangements, and reimbursement for expenses.

S. 2333 also requires a committee of national governing bodies to report annually to Congress on compliance with treating athletes equally.

We are simply asking for support for the bill and hope that the vote will be taken in a timely fashion.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The Equal Pay for Team USA Act of 2022 is a targeted approach to addressing the disparities in treatment among women and men who represent the United States in global amateur athletic competitions. For this reason, the bill has the support of many organizations, including the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, U.S. Soccer, U.S. Squash, USA Curling, USA Volleyball, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, the Women's Sports Foundation, the National Interscholastic Athletic Association, the National Women's Law Center, and the National Organization for Women.

The way we treat our amateur women athletes is a reflection of our Nation's values. Through their talents and hard work, these athletes showcase all that is best about America to the world.

All too often, they receive unequal pay or less favorable terms of employment merely because of their gender. It is time to correct this mistake and ensure that all American athletes competing on the world stage are treated fairly.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to pass the Equal Pay for Team USA Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2333.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ENERGY SECURITY AND LIGHTERING INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 2022

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 5168) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to include aliens passing in transit through the United States to board a vessel on which the alien will perform ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations within a class of nonimmigrant aliens, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 5168

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Energy Security and Lightering Independence Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. CHANGES IN NONIMMIGRANT CATEGORIES.

(a) TRANSIT THROUGH UNITED STATES.—Section 101(a)(15)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(C)) is amended to read as follows:

"(C)(i) an alien in immediate and continuous transit through the United States, for a period not to exceed 29 days;

"(ii) an alien who qualifies as a person entitled to pass in transit to and from the United Nations Headquarters District (as defined in section 209A(e) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 4309a(e))) and foreign countries, under the provisions of paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of section 11 of the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, done at Lake Success June 26, 1947 (61 Stat. 758); or

"(iii) an alien passing in transit through the United States to board a vessel on which the alien will perform, or to disembark from a vessel on which the alien performed, ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations to or from another vessel engaged in foreign trade, for a period not to exceed 180 days;"

(b) ALIEN CREWMEN.—Section 101(a)(15)(D) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(D)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by adding "or" at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(iii) an alien crewman performing ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations to or from another vessel engaged in foreign trade, who intends to land temporarily solely in pursuit of the alien's responsibilities as a crewman and to depart from the United States on the vessel on which the alien arrived or on another vessel or aircraft, for a period not to exceed 180 days;"

SEC. 3. CONDITIONAL PERMITS TO LAND TEMPORARILY.

Section 252(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1282(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "or" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) 180 days, if the immigration officer determines that the crewman—

"(A) intends to depart, within the period for which the crewman is permitted to land, on the same vessel or on a vessel or aircraft other than the vessel on which the crewman arrived; and

"(B) will perform ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations to or from any other vessel engaged in foreign trade during such period."

SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

For purposes of this Act, and the amendments made by this Act, the performance by a crewman of ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations to or from any other vessel engaged in foreign trade shall not be considered, for immigration purposes, to be services, work, labor or employment by the crewman within the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 5168.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 5168, the Energy Security and Lightering Independence Act of 2022, will make a small but important technical fix to our immigration laws to ensure that the visas for certain crewmembers engaged in a process known as lightering are functional.

Lightering is the ship-to-ship transfer of crude oil or liquid natural gas from a smaller vessel onto a larger vessel, or vice versa, for import and export. Approximately 74 percent of all U.S. exports and 44 percent of U.S. imports are conducted by lightering.

Lightering vessel crewmembers are issued combination C-1/D visas by the U.S. State Department. A crewmember or D visa is a nonimmigrant visa for persons working aboard vessels at sea or airplanes on international flights, providing services required for the normal operation of those vessels, and intending to depart the United States on the same vessel or any other vessel within 29 days.

A transit or C-1 visa allows the crewmember to travel or transit through the United States as a passenger to join a ship or aircraft on which that crewmember will work.

Because the work aboard lightering vessels typically lasts 3 to 6 months,

the 29-day limit on the combination C-1/D visa by itself is not adequate. Therefore, for decades, Customs and Border Protection has granted parole to lightering vessel crewmembers upon arrival in the United States, allowing them to remain on board the vessel and then to depart after their services aboard the vessel are completed up to 6 months later.

This legislation simply modifies the maximum period of stay for lightering crewmembers under the C-1/D visa from 29 days to 180 days. The simple change makes the C-1/D visa functional for lightering crewmembers, thus eliminating the need for CBP to continue granting parole on a case-by-case basis.

The legislation makes clear that this is a narrow change that only applies to lightering crewmembers who are transiting through or landing temporarily in the United States and that these crewmembers are explicitly not eligible to work in the United States on the C-1/D visa.

This technical fix is also expected to save CBP \$250,000 and 6,000 man-hours per year.

I thank Representative SYLVIA GARCIA for her leadership and for introducing this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

S. 5168 makes a narrow and positive change to U.S. immigration law to ensure that alien lighterers have access to visas that allow them to do their jobs on ships in U.S. waters.

Lightering is an offshore ship-to-ship transfer of oil from one oil tanker that is too big to travel into a U.S. port to a ship that is small enough to enter the port. According to the oil industry, lightering is used for over 50 percent of the crude oil imports into the United States.

In order to get the ships in U.S. waters, alien lighterers must currently obtain a C-1/D visa, which is a combination of a transit visa and a crewmember visa.

The C visa, or transit visa, allows the lighterer to enter the U.S. to board the ship on which he or she will be working. The D visa allows the lighterer to work as an alien crewman.

While the maximum period of stay allowed under the D visa is 29 days, the work of the lightering crews normally lasts anywhere from 3 to 6 months.

As a workaround to the 29-day limit, once lighterers are present at the U.S. port of entry, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, CBP, officers parole them into the United States for a 180-day period.

Recognizing the importance of the lightering industry and its crews to oil supply chain security, CBP has granted lighterers this parole under both Democrat and Republican administrations.

Unfortunately, such a situation is not what was contemplated when Con-

gress created the parole authority. Statute requires that parole be used only on a case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.

The Trump administration aimed to rein in executive abuse of the parole authority. In doing so, it initially curtailed the use of parole for lighterers but soon after returned to allowing the practice.

S. 5168 recognizes the importance of the lightering industry to the security of the oil supply chain. The bill creates a narrowly tailored subcategory of C and D visas for aliens performing "ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations to or from another vessel engaged in foreign trade."

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It is very specific to lighterers and allows them to remain in the United States for up to 180 days.

Mr. Speaker, I support this narrow change that will help ensure the security of our oil supply chain at a time when the Biden administration refuses to allow domestic industries producing energy here at home.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA), the sponsor of the bill and a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to express my strong support for S. 5168, the Energy Security and Lightering Independence Act of 2022 by Senators PADILLA and CORNYN.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my Senate counterparts for their work on this important bipartisan legislation, as well as Chairman NADLER and his staff for their efforts in getting this bill to the floor today.

I am proud to champion and sponsor this bill in the House, and I encourage all my colleagues to support the swift passage of this bipartisan bill.

Lightering is the ship-to-ship transfer of crude oil and liquid natural gas from a smaller vessel onto a larger vessel, or vice versa, for import and export. These ships are just plain too big to come in, so smaller ship comes in.

Approximately, 74 percent of U.S. exports and 44 percent of U.S. imports are conducted by lightering. Lightering vessels are foreign-flagged and therefore staffed with foreign crew. These workers are highly trained, skilled, long-term employees whose sole function is to work on the lightering and get the transfer done. They are not authorized to do any other work offshore or on dock.

Currently, lightering crews transit through a U.S. port under a C-1/D visa, which allows workers a 29-day work period—only 29 days. However, under the current structure, lightering crewmembers do not fit well into this visa category because they rarely, if ever, transit for less than 29 days.

Because those visas are only valid for up to 29 days and the crewmembers'

shift is often for 180 days, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, as has already been mentioned, must parole these crews to extend their visa time consistent with their work schedule. Let's be clear—paroles are burdensome for the workers and CBP, and there are additional costs to taxpayers.

These crewmembers are critical to the U.S. supply chain. If lightering crewmembers cannot enter the U.S. under a proper visa, lightering vessels cannot be appropriately staffed. This could result in delays and bottlenecks for U.S. energy exports or imports, impacting all of us. We cannot let this happen.

Therefore, my bill will bolster our energy security to ensure our lightering vessels are properly staffed. It makes a necessary technical correction to codify an existing State Department practice of issuing C-1/D visas for lightering. Again, this simply codifies a practice saving taxpayer dollars.

It would also allow crewmembers of lightering ships to work in the United States for up to 180 days in order for them to do their jobs thoroughly and completely.

This bill will bring more clarity to the lightering industry visa process for both the workers and all the U.S. Federal agencies involved, saving us tax dollars, and making things more efficient.

It will protect and secure the U.S. energy supply chain, which is a very important part of the economy in my district. It has already passed out of the Senate with bipartisan, unanimous support.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to sponsor this bill in the House. I thank my colleagues from Texas, Messrs. CRENSHAW, WEBER, GONZALES, CLOUD, and Mr. PALAZZO.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this very important piece of legislation, and let's get it to the President's desk at a time when we need to ensure that our supply chain continues without any issues.

Mr. Speaker, let's keep America's supply chain strong and please vote for this bill.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman, I thank the manager, and I thank my colleague, Congresswoman SYLVIA GARCIA from Texas, and Senator CORNYN from Texas, and the other sponsors.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the crucialness of this legislation dealing with the lighterers. It is about the economic engine that many of us have in our communities, and that is, of course, the port, but also the travel and business and the issues of recreation that are encountered on large vessels.

This bill will give these individuals the time that they need to do the proper work safely, rather than the short time of 29 days, to have an extended period of time to respond is both, in this climate, an economic boost, a recognition of fairness in the immigration process, and to recognize the importance of the hard work that the lighters do.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Congresswoman GARCIA, Members of the other body, and Senator CORNYN for the work that is going to shine a light on better productivity and a better economic aspect of this work.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, this legislation makes a modest but important technical change to the immigration laws that would improve the efficiency of our agencies and of a critical domestic industry.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 5168.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RESPECT FOR CHILD SURVIVORS ACT

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4926) to amend chapter 33 of title 28, United States Code, to require appropriate use of multidisciplinary teams for investigations of child sexual exploitation or abuse, the production of child sexual abuse material, or child trafficking conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4926

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Respect for Child Survivors Act”.

SEC. 2. MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 33 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 540D. Multidisciplinary teams

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘child sexual abuse material’ means a visual depiction described in section 2256(8)(A) of title 18;

“(2) the term ‘covered investigation’ means any investigation of child sexual exploi-

tation or abuse, the production of child sexual abuse material, or child trafficking conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

“(3) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

“(4) the term ‘multidisciplinary team’ means a multidisciplinary team established or used under subsection (b)(2);

“(5) the term ‘relevant children’s advocacy center personnel’ means children’s advocacy center staff that regularly participate in multidisciplinary child support settings, including the director of the children’s advocacy center, the coordinator of a multidisciplinary team, forensic interviewers, victim advocates, forensic medical evaluators, physicians, sexual assault nurse examiners, and mental health clinicians; and

“(6) the term ‘victim advocate’ means a person, whether paid or serving as a volunteer, who provides services to victims under the auspices or supervision of a victim services program.

“(b) FBI VICTIM SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the functions described in subsection (c) in connection with each covered investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Director shall, unless unavailable or otherwise inconsistent with applicable Federal law—

“(A) use a multidisciplinary team; and

“(B) in accordance with paragraph (3), use—

“(i) a trained Federal Bureau of Investigation child adolescent forensic interviewer; or

“(ii) in the absence of a trained Federal Bureau of Investigation child adolescent forensic interviewer, a trained forensic interviewer at a children’s advocacy center.

“(2) USE AND COORDINATION.—The Director shall use and coordinate with children’s advocacy center-based multidisciplinary teams as necessary to carry out paragraph (1).

“(3) CHILDREN’S ADVOCACY CENTERS.—The Director—

“(A) may work with children’s advocacy centers to implement a multidisciplinary team approaches for purposes of covered investigations; and

“(B) shall allow, facilitate, and encourage multidisciplinary teams to collaborate with a children’s advocacy center with regard to availability, provision, and use of services to and by victims and families that are participants in or affected by the actions at issue in a covered investigation.

“(4) REPORT.—The Director shall submit to the Attorney General an annual report identifying any interview of a victim reporting child sexual abuse material or child trafficking that took place—

“(A) without the use of—

“(i) a multidisciplinary approach;

“(ii) a trained forensic interviewer; or

“(iii) either the use of a multidisciplinary approach or a trained forensic interviewer; and

“(B) for each interview identified under subparagraph (A), describing the exigent circumstances that existed with respect to the interview, in accordance with paragraph (1).

“(5) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—The Director shall seek to enter into a memorandum of understanding with a reputable national accrediting organization for children’s advocacy centers—

“(A) under which—

“(i) the children’s advocacy services of the national organization are made available to field offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the United States; and

“(ii) special agents and other employees of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are made aware of the existence of such memoranda and its purposes; and

“(B) which shall reflect a trauma-informed, victim-centered approach and provide for case review.

“(c) FUNCTIONS.—The functions described in this subsection are the following:

“(1) To provide for the sharing of information among the members of a multidisciplinary team, when such a team is used, and with other appropriate personnel regarding the progress of a covered investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“(2) To provide for and enhance collaborative efforts among the members of a multidisciplinary team, when such a team is used, and other appropriate personnel regarding a covered investigation.

“(3) To enhance the social services available to victims in connection with a covered investigation, including through the enhancement of cooperation among specialists and other personnel providing such services in connection with a covered investigation.

“(4) To carry out other duties regarding the response to investigations of child sexual abuse or trafficking.

“(d) PERSONNEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each multidisciplinary team shall be composed of the following:

“(A) Appropriate investigative personnel.

“(B) Appropriate mental health professionals.

“(C) Appropriate medical personnel.

“(D) Victim advocates or victim specialists.

“(E) Relevant children’s advocacy center personnel, with respect to covered investigations in which the children’s advocacy center or personnel of the children’s advocacy center were used in the course of the covered investigation.

“(F) Prosecutors, as appropriate.

“(2) EXPERTISE AND TRAINING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any individual assigned to a multidisciplinary team shall possess such expertise, and shall undertake such training as is required to maintain such expertise, in order to ensure that members of the team remain appropriately qualified to carry out the functions of the team under this section.

“(B) REQUIREMENT.—The training and expertise required under subparagraph (A) shall include training and expertise on special victims’ crimes, including child sexual abuse.

“(e) SHARING OF INFORMATION.—

“(1) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), relevant children’s advocacy center personnel who are assigned to work on a covered investigation under this section shall be granted access to the case information necessary to perform their role conducting forensic interviews and providing mental health treatment, medical care, and victim advocacy for Federal Bureau of Investigation cases.

“(B) INCLUDED INFORMATION.—The case information described in subparagraph (A) to which relevant children’s advocacy center personnel shall be granted access includes—

“(i) case outcome of forensic interviews;

“(ii) medical evaluation outcomes;

“(iii) mental health treatment referrals and treatment completion;

“(iv) safety planning and child protection issues;

“(v) victim service needs and referrals addressed by the victim advocate;

“(vi) case disposition;

“(vii) case outcomes; and

“(viii) any other information required for a children’s advocacy centers as a part of the standards of practice of the children’s advocacy center; and

“(C) EXEMPT INFORMATION.—The case information described in subparagraph (A) does not include—